



PRESS RELEASE

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

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WEST VIRGINIA CROP ACREAGE FOR 2006

WEST VIRGINIA -- Winter wheat planted in West Virginia for 2006 is estimated at 8,000 acres, up 14 percent, or 1,000 acres from 2005. The projected harvest for grain is 5,000 acres, unchanged from 2005.

Corn planted is estimated at 44,000 acres, down 2 percent, or 1,000 acres from last year. Growers expect to harvest 26,000 acres for grain, down 7 percent, or 2,000 acres from last year.

Soybean planted acreage is estimated at 18,000, unchanged from 2005. Harvested acreage is projected at 17,000, also the same as 2005.

All hay harvested is forecast at 590,000 acres, up 3 percent, or 15,000 acres from last year. Alfalfa hay harvested is expected to total 30,000 acres, down 14 percent, or 5,000 acres from last year. Other hay harvested is expected to be 560,000 acres, up 4 percent, or 20,000 acres from last year's harvest.

These estimates were based on results from the June 1, 2006, Agricultural Survey.

UNITED STATES WITH 2005 COMPARISONS

-- Corn planted for all purposes – 79.4 million acres, down 3 percent from 2005 and 2 percent from 2004.

Biotechnology varieties as a percent of corn planted:

Bt - 25% of 2006 crop, 26% of 2005 crop;

Herbicide Resistant - 21% of 2006 crop, 17% of 2005 crop;

Stacked Gene - 15% of 2006 crop, 9% of 2005 crop;

All Biotech varieties - 61% of 2006 crop, 52% of 2005 crop.

-- Corn harvested for grain – 72.1 million acres, down 4 percent.

-- Winter wheat planted – 41.4 million acres, up 2 percent.

-- Winter wheat harvested for grain – 31.1 million acres, down 8 percent.

-- Oats planted - 4.31 million acres, up 2 percent.

-- Oats harvested for grain - 1.91 million acres, up 5 percent.

-- All tobacco harvested - 336,430 acres, up 13 percent.

-- Burley tobacco harvested – 105,100 acres, up 3 percent.

-- All hay for harvest - 62.7 million acres, up 2 percent.

-- Alfalfa hay for harvest - 22.4 million acres, up slightly.

-- Other hay for harvest – 40.3 million acres, up 3 percent.

-- Soybeans planted – 74.9 million acres, up 4 percent.

Biotechnology varieties as a percent of all soybeans planted:

Herbicide Resistant only - 89% of 2006 crop, 87% of 2005 crop;

All Biotech varieties - 89% of 2006 crop, 87% of 2005.

-- Soybeans for harvest – 73.9 million acres, up 4 percent.

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